

RURAL DISTRICT OF DRIFFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1950

including

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR

OFFICERS OF THE SANITARY AUTHORITY

Clerk of the Council:

R. B. TOLLETT.

Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer,

East Riding County Council:

E. T. COLVILLE, M.D., M.B., B.S.(Hons.), B.Hy., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor:

F. H. MARGERRISON, Cert.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector, Building Surveyor

and Housing Manager:

S. WRIGGLESWORTH, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Waterworks Engineer and Inspector:

T. LEARY.

Consulting Engineer:

D. H. MOORE, B.Sc., M.I.C.E.

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE,

TOWN HALL,

BRIDLINGTON.

*To the Chairman and Councillors,
Rural District of Driffield.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the Health Services of the Rural District for the year 1950.

There have been no outstanding circumstances adversely affecting the health of the district during the year.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Health Committee of the Council and my fellow officials for their ready assistance at all times.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

E. T. COLVILLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM.

Rural District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Driffield
Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98,423
Population: 1950 Registrar General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10,854
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£36,759
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£146
Birth-rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15.7
Death-rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.1
Infantile Mortality	...	...	...	...	...	...	23.5 per 1,000 births	

VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) LIVE BIRTHS.

				Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	75	81	156
Illegitimate	...	...	...	7	7	14
						170
Birth-rate	...	.....	...	...	...	15.7 per 1,000
Percentage of Illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	8.2

(b) STILL-BIRTHS.

There were 3 still-births (all legitimate) during the year, equivalent to a rate of 0.28 per 1,000 population, as compared with 0.37 for the country generally.

(c) DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Rural District was 131. This is equal to a death-rate of 12.1 per 1,000, compared with a rate of 11.6 for the country generally. The comparability factor to correct the crude death-rate for age and sex distribution in the Rural District is calculated by the Registrar General at 0.95. This, on multiplication with the actual rate, gives a comparative death-rate of 11.4 per 1,000 against that of 11.6 for the country generally.

The causes of death are given in Table 1.

(d) INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

There were 4 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, all legitimate. The infantile mortality rate based upon the number of live births registered during the year, i.e., 170, is equivalent to a rate of 23.5 per 1,000 births, compared with a rate for the country of 29.8.

TABLE I.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN DRIFFIELD R.D., 1950 (R.G.).

				Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	1	2
Cancer, stomach	...	...	...	5	—	5
Cancer, breast	...	...	...	—	5	5
Cancer, uterus	...	...	...	—	1	1
Cancer, other sites	...	...	...	11	4	15
Leukæmia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	1	—	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	7	6	13
Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	7	1	8
Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	2	2	4
Other heart disease	...	...	...	9	17	26
Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	1	1	2
Influenza	...	...	...	1	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	1	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	3	1	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	2	—	2
Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	1	—	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	11	7	18
Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	1	1	2
All other accidents	...	...	...	11	2	13
Suicide	...	...	...	1	1	2
				—	—	—
				78	53	131
				—	—	—

TABLE II.

VITAL STATISTICS—ENGLAND AND WALES (EXTRACTS).

BIRTHS.

Live Births	...	...	...	15.8	per 1,000 total population
Still Births	...	...	...	0.37	per 1,000 total population

DEATHS.

All causes	...	...	...	11.6	per 1,000 total population
All causes under 1 year of age	...	...	...	29.8	per 1,000 live births
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	...	...	...	1.9	per 1,000 live births
Maternal mortality rate (all causes)				0.86	per 1,000 live births and still births

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year:—

Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	19
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	81
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	3

There were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The number of children who completed the full course of immunisation in the Authority's area between 1st January and 31st December, 1950, is as follows:—

Under 5 years—139 5–15 years—6

In addition 3 children received boosting doses.

The estimated number of children immunised at any time who were born between 1936 and 1950 inclusive is as follows:—

Under 5 years—429 5–15 years—976

TUBERCULOSIS, 1950.

The Register of Tuberculosis for the year is as follows:—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
1st January, 1950	...	10	8	7	5	17
31st December, 1950	...	9	7	7	5	16

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year under review the Council appointed a full-time Waterworks Engineer and Inspector (T. Leary), who took up his duties on the 1st April, 1950.

A new 16" bore has been sunk to a depth of 355' 6" at the Hutton Pumping Station. Samples (13) of the water have been submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Hull for Bacteriological Examination and the reports on these show it to be "Equivalent to Class I. of the Ministry of Health Classification for piped water supplies, i.e., Highly Satisfactory." A sample of this water was submitted to the Public Analyst for the County of York, East Riding (D. J. T. Bagnall, Esq., A.C.G.F.C., F.R.I.C., City Laboratories, 184, High Street, Hull) for Chemical Analysis on 7th July, 1950, the Public Analyst's Report on

which stated, "I am of opinion that the above results indicate that the water, after sedimentation to remove the suspended chalk, is fit for human consumption."

Electric power was laid on to Nafferton Pumping Station and an electric submersible pump installed in the well during March, the capacity of the pump being 10,000 gallons per hour. Samples of the chlorinated (2) and untreated (7) water were submitted for Bacteriological Examination, the report showing the water to be Satisfactory, the last sample taken having a Count of 1 (Satisfactory), but the next one in January, 1951, having a "NIL" Count and described as "Highly Satisfactory." Both reservoirs at this Pumping Station are in use.

The waters at Hutton and Nafferton are chlorinated, the reagent being Voxsan solution special type C, and the feeders by Wallace & Tiernan, Ltd., the dosage being 2 gallons of 0.5% solution to 30,000 gallons of raw water.

A scheme prepared by the Waterworks Engineer for the metering of water services other than domestic resulted in tenders being invited and contracts placed for the installation of meters. This work was commenced in July and, by the end of August, the consumption of water in the western area supplied from Hutton had dropped by approximately 70,000 gallons per day, whilst the eastern area, supplied from Nafferton, dropped by approximately 60,000 gallons per day.

Apart from causes beyond control, such as broken mains and power failures, a full and efficient supply has been maintained at all times since the 8th May.

Supplies of water have been afforded to Burdale and one farm at Weaverthorpe within the Norton Rural District during the year.

Thirty-four service connections were made between 1st April and 31st December, including 16 new Council Houses and 5 new private dwellings.

The estimated number of houses taking water supplies from the Council's mains, including those supplied from public stand-taps, is 2,522 and affects (approximately) 8,700 of the population of the area.

Twenty-one samples of treated water were obtained from public stand-taps on the mains at various points in the district and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service at Hull for Bacteriological Examination. Three were reported "Unsatisfactory," but repeat samples in all cases gave "NIL" Counts and were reported "Highly Satisfactory." All the others were "Highly Satisfactory."

Three samples were sent for Bacteriological Examination from two private supplies, one supply being discontinued, and in the second case the repeat sample report was "Satisfactory."

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The detailed character and general efficiency or inefficiency of the Drainage and Sewerage of the district is set out in the Annual Report for the year 1937 and the position remains substantially the same. I repeat that the whole of the existing sewers and sewage disposal need revision, the outfalls are out-of-date and unable to cope with the work required of them. In some of the larger villages there is no definite sewerage and sewage disposal provided and there is urgent need for some definite action being taken to put into effect the schemes prepared by D. H. Moore, Esq., B.Sc., M.I.C.E., of Scarborough, the Council's Consulting Engineer.

Existing outfalls have received the required attention, and open drains which serve as "Disposals" from the village drains which discharge into them have been cleaned out in order to remove sewage deposits from them. This routine work is carried out by the Council's workmen under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector's assistant.

I have repeatedly pointed out that proper Sewerage and Sewage Disposal is necessary if satisfactory conditions regarding this service are to be obtained. With a "mains" water supply available, the demand is for a water carriage system whereby installations of water closets can be effected, but the existing systems are either totally inadequate or unable to deal with faecal matter. I repeat that some of the larger villages are without any means of sewage disposal and have to rely solely on open drains for this purpose. In many instances private septic tanks with filters are installed to deal with foul drainage containing solids; this method of disposal is adopted chiefly in isolated places, and is recommended, providing there is sufficient fall to give efficient filtration.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The conversion of pail closets and privy middens to water closets proceeds very slowly owing to lack of facilities for proper sewage disposal. Conversions undertaken have been carried out privately and each proposal as to ultimate disposal has had to be carefully considered.

In connection with the Housing Programme water closets are being installed in all cases, and where there is no system of sewerage and sewage disposal, the sewage is being dealt with through septic tanks and filters.

The approximate numbers of the various types of accommodation at the end of the year were 620 water closets, 2,265 pail closets and 344 privy middens, the latter being located in the isolated parts of the district.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING.

There is no change in the position regarding scavenging of the district. The same procedure still obtains.

Nafferton is still the only village where the collection of "Night Soil" is undertaken. The work is carried out by contract, and the contents of all pail closets and the five privy middens are collected by the Contractor and disposed of by him on land for manurial purposes. The pail closets are cleared weekly and privy middens quarterly or oftener if required.

Cleansing of pail closets, privies and ash pits in the remainder of the district is the responsibility of the householders, and this fact is to be deplored. In many instances the amount of land available for disposal by digging in is very limited and, with repetition of this procedure over many years, the land is "sewage sick."

The Council have no facilities for undertaking a service of cleansing of cesspools and this duty falls upon the householder concerned.

The Driffield R.A.F. Station, which is in the Rural District, has a bi-weekly collection from dust bins on the Station. This work is carried out by the Council's motor vehicle and workmen.

A scheme for the collection of Indestructible Household Refuse from the whole of the district is in force, and is carried out by the Council's motor vehicle and workmen. The district is divided into eight areas or groups of villages, each of which is visited on either the first, second, third or fourth Thursday or Friday of each month. By this arrangement, each village is visited and cleared once at least in every month. All material collected has been disposed of by tipping.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following Tabular Statement sets out the number and nature of inspections made, types of premises visited, purpose of these visits, action taken and results of such action:—

			No. in
		Inspections.	District.
Houses—for Rural Housing Survey (under £20 R.V.)		Nil	2795
Houses—for all other purposes	...	216	2933
Houses—subsequent visits	...	177	
Houses—informal action taken	...	53	
Houses—informal action complied with	...	53	
Houses—found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	...	6	
Houses—found overcrowded during the year	...	2	
Houses—found overcrowded at end of year	...	44	
Houses—disinfected after Infectious Disease	...	3	
Houses—disinfested for vermin (bed-bugs)	...	2	
New Houses built by the Council	...		16
New Houses built by Private Enterprise	...		3
New Houses in course of erection by the Council	...		20
New Houses in course of erection by Private Enterprise	...		5
Drainage Works—all types of premises	...	115	
Water Supplies—all types of premises	...	20	
Shops, other than Meat Shops	...	45	
Meat Shops, Stalls, etc.	...	118	
Food Inspections	...	14	
Ice Cream—Registered premises	...	51	
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	53	
Knackers' Yards	...	6	
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	37	
Privies converted to Pail Closets	...		1
Privies converted to Water Closets	...		7
Pail Closets converted to Water Closets	...		8
Cesspools abolished	...		3
Nuisances found and remedied	...		7
Water Samples sent for Bacteriological Examination—total	...		46
Water Samples sent for Bacteriological Examination from Pumping Stations	...		22
Water Samples sent for Bacteriological Examination from Public Stand-taps	...		21
Water Samples sent for Bacteriological Examination from Private Supplies	...		3
Unsatisfactory reports on Bacteriological Examination from Private Supplies	...		2
Repeat samples satisfactory on Bacteriological Examination from Private Supplies	...		1
Well closed (water unfit)	...		1

SHOPS AND OFFICES.

No action has been taken under either the Shops Act, 1934, or the Public Health Act, 1936, in respect of Shops and Offices.

CAMPING SITES.

There are no Camping Sites in the district, but four Licences have been issued authorising persons to erect or station and use caravans on four separate sites within the district, in accordance with Section 269 (1) (ii) of the Public Health Act, 1936, these being at Beeford, Cranswick, Frodingham Bridge and Middleton.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no Swimming Baths or Pools in the district, either public or private.

ERADICATION OF BED-BUGS.

Two cases of infestation by bed-bugs have been notified and dealt with. In each case double disinfection was applied and no recurrence has been observed or reported.

SCHOOLS.

No action has been taken by the Council regarding Water Supply and Sanitary Accommodation to Schools. Most of these premises have a laid-on Water Supply from the Council's Mains and the Education Authority is very much alive to the needs in respect of sanitary accommodation.

HOUSING.

The provision of completed Council Houses continues to relieve the housing situation throughout the whole district. There is still a demand, and the Housing Committee realising this is making every effort to provide the necessary accommodation of permanent traditional types especially to meet the needs of Agricultural Workers and Aged Persons.

Two Council Houses built in 1921 at Watton have been brought up to date by the conversion of the pail closets into water closets and laying of a hot and cold water supply to the baths and sinks. The old Yorkshire side oven and boiler type or ranges have been taken out and new modern tiled fireplaces with raised hearths have been fixed in the living rooms of these houses. Modern Combination Ranges have replaced the scullery fireplaces.

Council Houses completed during the year include:—

Wetwang	...	...	...	...	4
Foston	...	...	...	...	4
Garton	...	...	...	...	4
Tibthorpe	...	...	...	...	4
				Total	16
					—

Council Houses in course of erection include :—

Bainton	...	...	...	...	4
Beeford	...	...	...	...	4
Nafferton	...	...	...	...	8
North Dalton	...	...	...	...	4
					—
			Total	...	20
					—

Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of year—239.

Under Private Enterprise three houses have been completed and five are in course of erection, all of traditional permanent types.

A dilapidated house which had been unoccupied for over 20 years is in the course of being modernised and will be brought back into occupation at North Frodingham.

No applications for improvement or conversion of houses under the Housing Act, 1949, were received during the year.

Owing to housing shortage, overcrowding does occur and 44 cases remained at the end of the year. Four cases were relieved by moving into Council Houses, but two further cases have been found to exist.

Regarding the Rural Housing Survey, the figures remain categorized as follows :—

Number of houses in district	...	...	...	2933
Number of houses in district under £20 R.V.	...	...	2795	

Category.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	overcrowded.
172	263	694	143	478	44

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

During the year the officers of this Authority have co-operated with the officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries with a view to bringing about better conditions in the production of milk.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The Central Slaughterhouse for the area is situated in the Driffield Urban District. There is no slaughtering for sale carried out in the Rural District, and the 13 butchers located in the district obtain their meat from the Central Slaughter-house, retailing it from their own premises and vans. Driffield butchers also retail meat, by vans, in the Rural District.

Meat Shops, Vehicles and places where food is prepared for sale have all received attention and 118 inspections have been made. No action has been necessary, all premises being found well kept and clean.

The amount of unsound foodstuffs found includes:—

125 jars of Picalilli.	18 jars of Continental Mustard.
129 jars of Mixed Pickles.	21 jars of Rhubarb.
280 jars of Pickled Onions.	25 1 lb. packets Sweetened Fat.
31 jars of Chntney.	9½ lbs. of Butter.
144 jars of Salad Cream.	48 tins of Health Salts.
34 jars of Fish Paste.	45 tins of Beetroot.
26 jars of Herring Fillets.	40 bottles of "Rigatone" (tonic).

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	47	98
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	3	15
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—
	—	—
Total ...	50	113
	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	6	6
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7).		
(a) insufficient	1	1
(b) unsuitable or defective	4	4
	—	—
Total ...	16	16
	—	—

